

ASU Trumpet Quartet

Exploring the Possibilities: A Performance-based Research Project

“This project affords the trumpet ensemble the knowledge, experience, and ability to practice and perform music on a professional level.”

Teamwork- Ethan

- All ensembles have to deal with the issue of teamwork.
- Making sure the ensemble is balanced is one of the ensembles biggest jobs.
- Playing in a small group is very different than playing in a large group. Small groups must stay together on their own when playing because there is no conductor.
- “It was a long and slow process, but we grew together and now each person knows when someone is together with the group.”

Ensemble Skills- Brandon

- Early on, we had to do exercises to help us learn to match styles.
- We learned that adjustments even as small moving closer together can drastically improve ensemble playing.
- We’ve been exposed to different styles of music, from fast, light, and delicate, to slow, smooth, and songlike, and have worked on portraying contrast between all styles.
- “We’ve gone from being able to hear four parts being awkwardly played coincidentally at the same time, to capable students of music melding our abilities together.”

Use of Different Trumpets- Adam

- The use of different trumpets is seen in trumpet repertoire often.
- One of the most commonly used trumpets aside from the Standard Bb is the flugelhorn, which has a more mellow sound than a Bb trumpet.
- The piccolo trumpet is also widely used. It is tuned an octave higher, and is commonly used to assist in lead parts music.
- The C, D, and Eb trumpets are also commonly used. They are tuned to a different key than Bb trumpets, and are most often used in orchestra.
- “Each of these trumpets, if they are approached correctly, can make for beautiful sounds and music, whether it be in solo or ensemble settings.”

Ethan Huffman, Brandon Batten, Adam Coffman, and Dr. John Irish

“The group ably demonstrated heightened ensemble skills, new repertoire, and superb performances.” – Dr. John Irish